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From the Editor

This issue represents our 2nd Annual issue of selected proceedings from the American Academy of Pain Medicine's 1997 Review Course in Pain Medicine and the 13th Annual Conference. Acting as Guest Editor of this issue is Elliot S. Krames, MD, Chair of the Review Course.

We hope you find this issue of interest. Please note that we continue to accept manuscripts for consideration in the Journal, as well as other contributions such as letters to the Editor, Point/Counterpoints, Commentaries, etc.

In particular, we are eager to hear from you, our readers, on what you thought of two of our more recent issues, which were presented to you in an effort to generate discussion and debate. These issues included the April issue (8:2) on 'Concepts related to the treatment of back pain' and the October issue (9:2) which focused on pain, particularly the use of opioids in the treatment of chronic pain, as debated in the Point/Counterpoint section.

We hope you are finding the *Journal of Back and Musculoskeletal Rehabilitation* both interesting and educational. We look forward to receiving your contributions.

Karen S. Rucker, MD

Publisher's Note

In consultation with the Editor-in-Chief, we have appointed Dr. Richard Aspden as Regional Editor (Europe).

It is hoped that his appointment will further increase input from Europe and elsewhere, and help enhance the visibility of the journal internationally.

We look forward to his valuable contribution towards the development of this journal.

The Publisher